

## WeForest is pledging to transform an area the size of Luxembourg by 2030.

The Paris Climate Agreement is not going to be sufficient to keep global warming and its <u>dramatic effects</u>, such as spread of infectious diseases like dengue fever, more frequent and stronger floods and droughts, under control. Global emissions must peak at the latest by 2020 and the excess carbon dioxide must be removed from the atmosphere now.

About 40 percent of the carbon dioxide we emit gets absorbed by the oceans. These are becoming warmer and their absorption capacity is limited. The atmosphere is also saturated. Last month, the carbon dioxide concentration reached a record high level of 404 ppm, whereas the threshold of 350 ppm should never have been exceeded.

A simple solution exists that will buy us time until a low carbon economy is available everywhere. Healthy and growing forests remain the best technology for removing excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The <a href="New York Declaration on Forests">New York Declaration on Forests</a> (NYDF), already endorsed by almost two hundred public and private organizations, provides a global roadmap for ending deforestation and restoring a total of 350 million hectares of forest by 2030.

<u>WeForest</u> is an international non-profit that has developed the capacity to mobilize companies to engage their employees and millions of consumers in restoring the world's forests. It aims to make the commitments of NYDF a reality by advancing innovative, scalable and lasting solutions to restore forest landscapes for climate, people and planet, contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

On 7 November 2017, WeForest will announce its pledge to restore 100,000 ha of forests by 2030 during a <u>launch event of the NYDF Global Platform</u> at COP23. Restoring 100,000 ha of forest will sequester 15 MTon CO2 eq and transform a broader landscape of over 300,000 ha, an area larger than Luxembourg.

Bonn, Germany 7 November 2017